

County Bond Issue Sponsors In High Gear As Election Nears

Backed by political, civic and social organizations, by management and labor, by veterans and by a mounting tide of sentiment from public-spirited citizens generally, the campaign for a county building and improvement program went into high gear this week as the special bond issue election August 6 approached.

If a two-thirds majority is obtained, it means the county Board of Supervisors then will be able to proceed on a large-scale improvement program embracing these projects: a new courthouse and office building, a new county jail, new Juvenile Detention Home, greater beach parks, museums in Exposition and Hancock parks, a new building for the County Art Institute and a new system of incinerators. The estimated cost of the entire program amounts to \$44,475,000.

The prime argument stressed by proponents of the bond issues is that Los Angeles County, third largest in the country and its fastest-growing, with a population increase of 58 percent in the last 15 years, has had no substantial building program during this period.

The overall increase in county business has been phenomenal; the demand for county services has steadily multiplied.

Ten years ago the last county-owned courthouse was torn down. Today county court and office facilities in the Civic Center area are taxed beyond capacity.

The proposed new courthouse-office building, largest principal item in point of cost (\$19,000,000) of the bond issues, would be erected in the Los Angeles Civic Center on a site bounded by the planned Hollywood Parkway, Broadway, Sunset Blvd. and Spring street.

Second of the propositions appearing on the August 6 election ballot calls for a new county jail at Castaic. The amount of this bond issue is \$5,000,000.

The consequences of overcrowding in the present jail can be easily imagined, the committee points out, creating intolerable conditions adverse to health, sanitation and rehabilitation.

The housing shortage is again reflected in connection with the Juvenile Detention Home. With a capacity of 320 children, the institution has been forced to accommodate as many as 370, with others housed in jails with adult prisoners.

Cost of the proposed Juvenile Center is \$4,000,000, of which half would be provided by the State.

Cries that the famed Southern California coast is altogether lacking in the kind of modern beaches one would expect to find, have reached a crescendo in recent years.

"Our entire beach frontage in Southern California has been absorbed by private development and, like Topay, has 'just grown,'" says P. G. Winsett, president of Bullock's. "We have a conglomerate commercial, residential and miscellaneous, unsightly unplanned front, with only occasional undeveloped open areas. These areas lack water, sanitary facilities, adequate parking, police protection, life guards, and are not available to mass transportation.

The bond issue for greater

beach parks, one in the Santa Monica area and one in the Long Beach area, calls for an outlay of \$8,200,000 which will finance modern beach facilities similar to those at Jones Beach, N. Y. Operating revenues would offset the cost of development and construction.

The Los Angeles County Museum has not been slighted in the distribution of valuable items among museums throughout the United States. But it probably leads the nation in the number of things it has been forced to store away for lack of exhibition space. A \$3,000,000 bond issue would construct and equip an addition to the present museum in Exposition Park and, secondly, establish a science museum in Hancock Park, world-renowned as the site of the Rancho La Brea tar pits.

Demands for art instruction have multiplied in Los Angeles County with the influx of new residents and have been accentuated by settlement here of many art-interested veterans. The present County Art Institute is housed in two old residence dwellings, never intended for art purposes, but worse still, they have been declared a fire hazard.

A bond issue of \$1,275,000 is proposed for construction of a new art institute building to accommodate approximately 1,000 students.

Advocates of the \$6,000,000 bond issue for construction of a county-wide incinerator system point out that incinerator construction of a county-wide incinerator system point out that incinerator construction has failed to keep pace with the growing rubbish disposal needs of the area.

Plans call for incinerator units in 11 strategic sites throughout the county to be utilized by citizens, private contractors with county refuse disposal districts, and the public generally.

On four of the bond issues, namely, the courthouse, new jail, juvenile center and incinerator system, citizens were reminded that if the bonds are not voted, the county must perforce levy taxes for these urgently needed improvements.

Vets Art Show To Attract Many Entries

Some of the nation's most outstanding professional artists have been chosen to judge more than 1,000 veteran entries for the Veterans Art and Artcrafts show, August 4 to September 9, at the Los Angeles County Museum, Exposition Park, Edward Withers, president of the California Art Club, sponsors of the show, announced today.

Presented in cooperation with the Veterans Administration and the County Museum, the show is designed to focus public attention on veteran artists studying under provisions of the GI Bill.



TO SPEAK HERE . . . Pictured above is Major General Graves B. Erskine, USMC, who will be the principal speaker at the second annual meeting of the Veterans Service Centers being held at the Biltmore Bowl on Aug. 7. Veterans Service Center and its 18 affiliated bureaus are supported by Community Chest contributions.

General Erskine Speaks At Annual V.S.C. Meeting

Major General Graves B. Erskine, USMC, Iwo Jima, Tarawa and Tinian commander, who is now director of Retraining and Re-employment administration, will brief Los Angeles Community Veterans Service Center leaders on veterans and war workers in the Biltmore Hotel Aug. 7.

The VSC annual meeting, which will discuss important veteran problems, will start at 12 noon in the Biltmore Bowl, Robert H. Craig has announced.

Police Warn Of Bogus Solicitors Working Area

Police are issuing warnings regarding bogus solicitors working in this area. Among them are so-called salesmen for repair work, prefabricated homes and magazines.

One notice sent out reads: "If a 'building contractor' calls at your home seeking repair work, better check. A number of people whose homes need repairs have recently been defrauded by a bogus contractor. His principal tool seems to be a glib tongue, for he has obtained amounts ranging from \$250 to \$450 in advance. He does not return; simply pockets the money and moves into another area."

"It's a prefabricated or pre-cut home or garage you are interested in, remember—BEFORE YOU INVEST—INVESTIGATE! Find out about the seller. Customers of two more such outfits are due to regret their failure to investigate."

"Racket magazine solicitations are still taking their toll. One man who has left a trail of complaints behind him in many cities, and who has served time on at least one occasion, is working this territory."

"He takes orders for magazines to be delivered to Army and Navy hospitals. He uses the sympathy appeal to get orders for magazines that aren't needed, because between the American Red Cross and the Government, hospitals are supplied. A number of local people have paid him and then inquired afterwards. He usually gets his money from girls and women in amounts varying from \$10 to \$70. The subscribers have no way of knowing whether the magazines are ever delivered."

LIEUT. BLAIR PARTICIPATES IN MANILA PARADE

Lieutenant William E. Blair, husband of Mrs. Elizabeth E. Blair, was one of the men selected to participate in the Philippine Independence Day aerial review of Boeing Superforts. This review took place over the city of Manila July 4, 1946.

He is a member of the 22nd Bomb Group (Very Heavy) of the 318th Bomb Wing which is stationed at this advanced island base.

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